



Conversation Curriculum

Why Do We Go to School?

Learning Objective: Students will gain practice in articulating their past education experiences and their motivations to attend English class.

Before Class: Review the lesson plan and make sure all materials are accounted for in the packet. Make copies as necessary.

- Write the questions for the They do activity on two mini white boards and have them hidden under some papers until that activity.

Warm Up Activity (15 minutes): Hand a set of pictures in a stack face down to each student pair and have students draw a card, and explain that picture to a partner.

- Write the following questions on a mini white board for students to answer in pairs:
 1. Who is in the picture? And 2. What are they doing?

I do/ We do Activity (10 minutes): Ask students to tell the rest of the class what is going on in each picture. Ask each student about at least one card.

Have the students, as a class, separate the pictures based on the following categories and explain why a picture belong in that category:

- Pictures of school
- Reasons to go to school
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They do Activity (20 minutes): Have students pair up and ask each other the follow questions (Write them on a mini whiteboard)

1. How long have you gone to school for English?
2. Why do you want to learn English?
3. What do you like about school?
4. What do you not like about school?

If students communicate better with written materials, have them copy the questions onto paper and write down their partner's answers.

- Once both students have been interviewed each other, have each student pair join another student pair.

- Have each student introduce his/her partner to the small group, with answering all four questions being the minimum introduction.

Journal Writing (10 – 15 minutes): Students will write in their dialog journals about one of the four following topics:

- Respond to the last entry (i.e. continue the ‘dialog’)
- Introduce yourself to the teacher (for new students)
- How long have you gone to school for English? Why do you go? What do you want to improve the most?
- Free-write about a topic of the student’s choice

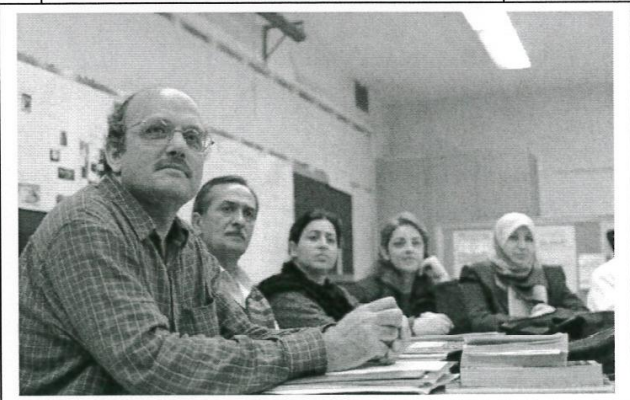
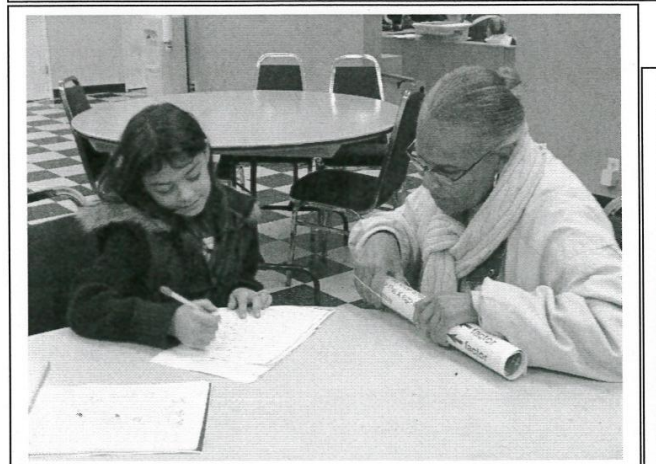
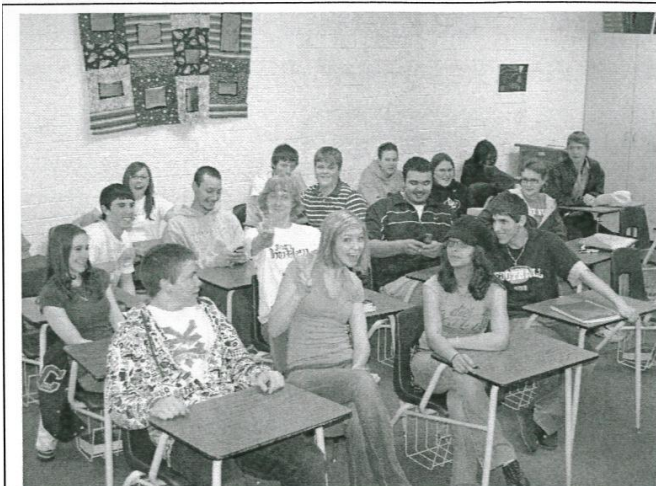
Optional extra activity if time

Student Survey: Have students work in small groups of 3-4. Give one Student Survey to each group. Ask one student to be the reader, one student to be the vote counter and one student to be the reporter. The reader will read the Student Survey and all students will say if the statement is true or false for them. The vote counter will write down every true and false vote under the headings at the bottom of the sheet. The reporter will share the group’s results with the class.

Student Survey-

Is this TRUE or FALSE about you and your study of English?

1. I often study English at home, in a library, on the train.
2. I need English for my work, to pass an exam, to get a job.
3. I don't like making grammar mistakes when I speak English.
4. I love speaking English with other learners of the same level.
5. I go to English conversation classes because I simply want to, not because I have to.
6. I think my teachers should force me to speak more in conversation class.
7. I watch English-language TV and films in English-even though I don't understand everything.
8. I think the teacher is what motivates a student most.
9. I prefer learning grammar and vocabulary to speaking English.
10. I often ask the other students questions and comment on what they say in conversation class.



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Pictures of school

Reasons to go to school